II Marine Expeditionary Force
Special Operations Training Group

Marine Expeditionary Unit Overview

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MEU Characteristics

Reference. MCO 3120.9C (4 Aug 2009)

Sea-based forward presence

Expeditionary in nature

Crisis action planning and response

Combined arms integration

Interoperability

Forward-deployed MEU Operations

Reference. MCO 3120.9C (4 Aug 2009)

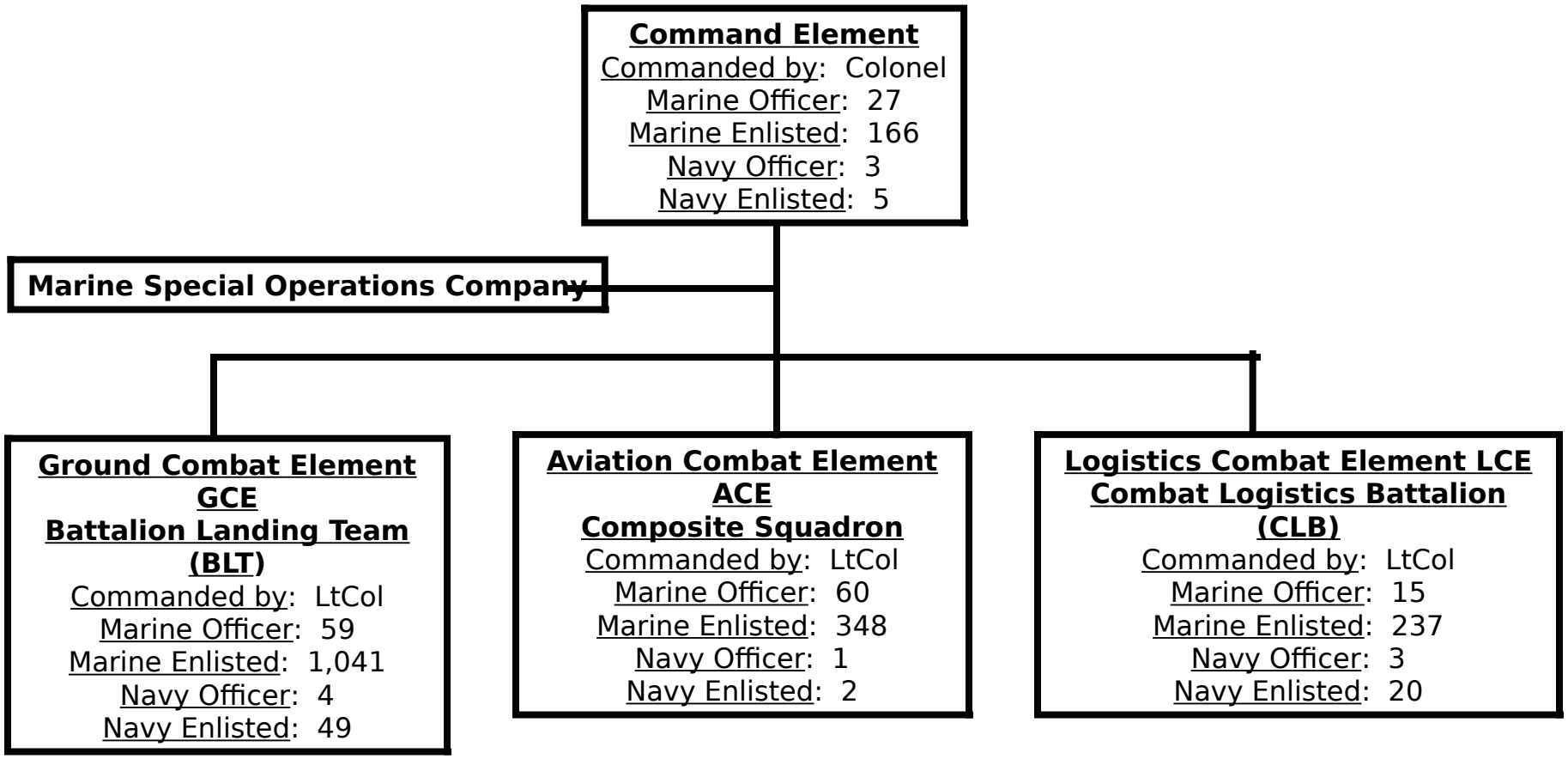
Amphibious Operations

Conduct amphibious assault MCT 1.3.2.3
Conduct amphibious raid MCT 1.3.2.2
Conduct Maritime Interception Operations MCT 1.3.2.8
Conduct Visit, Board, Search and Seizure MCT 1.3.2.9
Seize a static maritime platform
Conduct selected maritime security missions
Conduct Advance Force Operations MCT 1.6.10

Expeditionary Support to Other Operations/Crisis Response and Limited Contingency Operations

Conduct Non-combatant Evacuation Operations MCT 1.6.6.6
Conduct Humanitarian Assistance MCT 1.6.6.7
Conduct Stability Operations MCT 1.6.6.9
Conduct Tactical Recovery of Aircraft and Personnel MCT 6.2.1
Conduct Joint and Combined Operations MCT 5.5
Conduct Aviation Operations from expeditionary shore-based sites MCT 1.3.3.3.2
Conduct/Support Theater Security Cooperation Activities MCT 5.5.5
Conduct Airfield/Port Seizure MCT 1.6.5.6

Marine Expeditionary Unit Organization



MEU Command Element

S-1 (Administration)

S-2 (Intelligence)

Analyst Section

Topographic Section

Conventional Intelligence Collection Unit

Intel Bn Det **-** Human Intelligence Collection Unit

Radio Battalion Det

(1) MEWSS (Marine Electronic Warfare Support System) - Specially-configured Light Armored Vehicle Radio Reconnaissance Team

S-3 (Operations)

Operations Section

Fire Support Section

Aviation Secion (at least one of these will be a helicopter pilot)

Nuclear, Biological and Chemical Section

Force Protection Section

Det, Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company (to call/adjust Air and Naval Gunfire, conduct fire support related liaison)

Information Operations attachment

Civil Affairs attachment

Force Reconnaissance Platoon

S-4 (Logistics)

Logistics Section

Embarkation Section

Supply Section

Motor Transport Section

Contracting Section

S-6 (Communications)

Radio Section

(19) SatCom Radios

Information Systems Management Section

Comm Bn Det - Joint Task Force Enabler Section

(1) JTFE

Legal Section

Medical Section

Public Affairs Section

Bold type indicates organic elements

Non bold type indicates non-organic elements that are attached to the MEU

Ground Combat Element

Infantry Battalion

- **Headquarters and Service Company**
  - **(includes 3 pilots serving as Forward Air Controllers)**
  - **Medical Platoon**
- **3 Rifle Companies**
  - **3 x Rifle Platoon**
    - **M4 5.56mm Carbine/ M16A4 5.56mm Rifle**
    - **M203 40mm Grenade Launcher**
    - **M249 5.56mm Squad Automatic Weapon**
  - **1 x Weapons Platoon**
    - **3 x 60mm mortars (M224)**
    - **6 x SMAW (Shoulder launched Multi purpose Assault Weapon) (Mk 153)**
    - **6 x 7.62mm Machineguns (M240G)**
- **1 Weapons Company**
  - **Scout Sniper Platoon (10 x 7.62 rifles, 2 x .50 cal Special Application Scoped Rifles)**
  - **81mm Mortar Platoon (8 x M252 mortar)**
  - **Heavy Machine Gun Platoon (6 X M2 .50 cal, 6 x Mk 19 40mm mounted on HMMWVs)**
  - **Anti Armor Platoon (8 x M220E4 TOW missiles mounted on HMMWVs, 8 x Javelin)**

1 Artillery Battery

- 6 x 155mm towed Howitzer with 7-ton trucks
- 4 x 120mm mortars (Expeditionary Fire Support System) with Internally Transportable Vehicle

HQ Battery Det - Artillery Liaison Team to call/adjust Artillery

1 Light Armored Reconnaissance Plt (4 x LAV-25, 2 x LAV-AT, 1 x LAV-L)

1 Combat Engineer Platoon (either 2 x Armored Combat Excavator or 2 x Small Emplacement Excavators)

1 AAV Platoon (13 x AAVP-7, 1 x AAVC-7)

1 Tank Platoon (4 x M1A1)

1 Amphibious Reconnaissance Platoon

1 Shore Fire Control Party (Navy/Marine team to call/adjust Naval Gunfire)

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Typical Missions

Company-size Amphibious Raids (Helo Raid, Mechanized Raid, Motorized Raid)

Aviation Combat Element

Medium Helicopter Squadron (10 x MV-22)
Heavy Helicopter Detachment (4 x CH-53E)
Light / Attack Helicopter Detachment (4 x AH-1W, 2 x UH-1N)
Fixed Wing Attack Detachment (6 x AV-8B)
Fixed Wing Refueler/Transport (2 x KC-130J on standby in the United States)
Detachment, Marine Air Control Group
Marine Air Traffic Control Mobile Team (to control aircraft that are landing/taking off from expeditionary airfields)
Aviation Support Element (to control air space)
Low Altitude Air Defense (3 x Avenger, 5 x Stinger)
Detachment, Marine Wing Comm Squadron (provides communication support for ASE and MMT)
Detachment, Marine Wing Support Squadron (can establish Forward Arming & Refueling Points)
Detachment, Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron (intermediate level maintenance on each type/ model/series)

Typical Missions
Direct Support to the MEU in support of all missions
Exercise 5 of the 6 missions of Marine Aviation (cannot conduct Electronic Warfare)

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Combat Logistics Element

Combat Logistics Battalion
- **Engineer Detachment**
  - **(3) Explosive Ordnance Teams**
  - **(7) Generators**
  - **(2) TWPS (Tactical Water Purification System)**
  - **(3) TRAM (Truck, Rubber Tire, Articulated Movement) (10,000 lb capacity forklift / front-end loader)**
  - **(3) EBFL**
  - **(4) Sanator**
  - **(7) Six Cons – water**
  - **(6) Six Cons – fuel**
- **Transportation Support Detachment**
  - **Transportation Platoon**
    - **(25) MTVR (Medium Tactical Vehicle Replacements)**
    - **(14) HMMWV (High Mobility Multi-purpose Wheeled Vehicle)**
    - **(1) Wrecker**
  - **Landing Force Support Party (to organize Beach Support Area)**
- **Maintenance Detachment**
  - **(1) AAVR-7**
  - **(1) M-88A1 Tank Retriever**
- **Communication Detachment**
  - **(2) MRC-138**
  - **(2) MRC-145**
- **Supply Detachment**
- **Medical Detachment**
  - **(2) Ambulances**
- **Dental Detachment**
- **Military Police Detachment**

Typical Missions

Humanitarian Assistance

Mass Casualty

Non-Combatant Evacuation Operations

Direct Support to the MEU

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Advantages of MEUS
Reasons for Deploying MEUs

Forward Deployed

Ambiguity of Intent

Multiple Options for Tactical Entry

Importance of Littorals

Fewer Forward Bases

Decaying / Nonexistent Infrastructures

Non-Traditional, Asymmetrical Threat

“3 Block War”